



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

Contact: Kevin Kelly
FY-03-113

Phone: (573) 751-9300

Governor Office Building, Suite 900

PSC OPENS TELEPHONE COMPETITION CASE

Jefferson City (February 20, 2003)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has established a case to investigate the state of telephone competition in the exchanges of Sprint Missouri, Inc.

Under Missouri law, the Commission is to review the state of competition within five years of the beginning of basic local telephone competition. On February 10, 2003, the PSC Staff filed a request with the Commission to establish a case to investigate the state of competition in Sprint Missouri, Inc.'s exchanges.

ExOp of Missouri, Inc. was authorized to provide basic local telephone service in a Sprint Missouri, Inc. exchange on December 15, 1998. To be authorized to provide basic local telephone service, a provider must have been granted a certificate to provide such service from the Public Service Commission; it must have an interconnection agreement with Sprint Missouri, Inc. approved by the Commission; and the provider must have on file and approved by the Commission, a tariff which describes their rates and services.

Because of basic local telephone competition in its service territory, Sprint Missouri, Inc. is currently under price cap regulation. Determining whether effective competition exists in Sprint Missouri, Inc.'s exchanges could affect the Company's price cap status. If effective competition is found to exist, Sprint Missouri, Inc. could have greater flexibility to adjust its rates for some or all of its services in some or all of its exchanges.

Applications to intervene and participate in this case must be filed on or before March 6, 2003, with the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Copies of the application should be sent to: Lisa Creighton Hendricks, Sprint, 6450 Sprint Pkwy, Overland Park, Kansas 66251; and the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 7800, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

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